

REMARKS

By this Amendment, claims 2 and 3 are amended, and claim 1 is canceled, without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter found therein. Claim 2 is amended to depend from claim 3 and to correct minor informalities. Claims 2-9 are pending in this application. Claims 2, 5, 6, 8 and 9 are withdrawn from consideration. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

I. Information Disclosure Statement

An Information Disclosure Statement with Form PTO-1449 was filed in the above-captioned patent application on November 28, 2005. Applicants have not yet received from the Examiner a copy of the Form PTO-1449 initialed to acknowledge the fact that the Examiner has considered the disclosed information. The Examiner is requested to initial and return to the undersigned a copy of the Form PTO-1449.

II. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 3, 4 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0246446 A1 to Lee et al. (Lee); and rejects claims 1, 3, 4 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0057018 A1 to Cho et al. (Cho).

The rejections are moot with respect to canceled claim 1. However, Applicant notes that claim 3 is rewritten into independent form to incorporate the features of claim 1 and to incorporate additional features. Therefore, Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections of claims 3, 4 and 7.

A. Lee

Lee does not teach or suggest a projector including "a plurality of display elements including a plurality of pixels to modulate the illumination light; a color synthesizing optical system to synthesize image light formed by the plurality of display elements; a projecting

device to project the image light synthesized by the color synthesizing optical system" in which "each of the display elements being disposed for each of the colors," as recited in independent claim 3.

The Office Action asserts that Lee discloses a display device including a light source 200, a display element 240, an irradiation optical system 202-205, 207-250, an illumination light-scanning device 210 and a projection device 255. Notwithstanding these assertions, Lee does not teach or suggest a plurality of display elements in which each of the display elements are disposed for each of at least two colors, a color synthesizing optical system to synthesize an image light formed by the plurality of display elements, and a projection device to project the synthesized image light.

Lee appears to teach, in Fig. 3, a color scrolling projection system including a light source 200, a color separator 220, a single light valve 240 (display element), an irradiation optical system 202 and 204-206, a scrolling unit 210 (illumination light scanning device), and image re-forming device 207, 231, 235-237 and 250.

Because Lee only teaches a single light valve 240 (display element), Lee cannot reasonably be considered to teach or suggest each of a plurality of display elements being disposed for each of at least two colors. Furthermore, Lee cannot reasonably be considered to teach or suggest a color synthesizing optical system that synthesizes an image light formed by such a plurality of display elements, and a projection device that projects a synthesized image light formed by such a plurality of display elements. Therefore, Lee does not teach or suggest the projector of claim 3.

For at least the reasons discussed above, claim 3 is patentable over Lee. Claims 4 and 7 depend from claim 3, and thus also are patentable over Lee for at least the reasons set forth above, as well as for the additional features they recite. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection based on Lee is respectfully requested.

B. Cho

Cho does not teach or suggest a projector including "a plurality of display elements including a plurality of pixels to modulate the illumination light; a color synthesizing optical system to synthesize image light formed by the plurality of display elements; a projecting device to project the image light synthesized by the color synthesizing optical system" in which "each of the display elements being disposed for each of the colors," as recited in independent claim 3.

The Office Action asserts that Cho discloses a display device including a light source 00, a display element 140, an irradiation optical system 105, 107, 131, 135, 137, an illumination light-scanning device 110 and a projection lens 6. Notwithstanding these assertions, Lee does not teach or suggest a plurality of display elements in which each of the display elements are disposed for each of at least two colors, a color synthesizing optical system to synthesize an image light formed by the plurality of elements, and a projection device to project the synthesized image light.

Cho appears to teach, in Fig. 3, a single-panel color image display apparatus including a light source 100, a color light separator 120, a single light valve 140 (display element), lenses 107, 131, 135, 137 (irradiation optical system), and a scrolling unit 110 (illumination light scanning device).

Because Cho only teaches a single light valve 140 (display element), Cho cannot reasonably be considered to teach or suggest each of a plurality of display elements being disposed for each of at least two colors. Furthermore, Cho cannot reasonably be considered to teach or suggest a color synthesizing optical system that synthesizes an image light formed by such a plurality of display elements, and a projection device that projects a synthesized image light formed by such a plurality of display elements. Therefore, Cho does not teach or suggest the projector of claim 3.

For at least the reasons discussed above, claim 3 is patentable over Cho. Claims 4 and 7 depend from claim 3, and thus also are patentable over Cho for at least the reasons set forth above, as well as for the additional features they recite. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection based on Lee is respectfully requested.

III. Conclusion

Claims 2, 5, 6, 8 and 9 depend from claim 3, and thus also are allowable for at least the reasons set forth above, as well as for the additional features they recite. Because claims 2, 5, 6, 8 and 9 include all features of claim 3, rejoinder of claims 2, 5, 6, 8 and 9 is respectfully requested upon allowance of independent claim 3.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 2-9 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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